

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 1, as shown below:

US ~~4,676,696~~ 4,676,696 (Laursen) relates to an apparatus for securing a flowline to a structure near the seabed, comprising a vertically oriented guide funnel placed atop a guide tube that is provided with a helical shoulder cooperating with an alignment key mounted on the flowline. During installation, the flowline is stabbed into the guide funnel and guide tube thereby causing the alignment key to slide along the shoulder until a pair of hinge pins mounted on the flowline have entered into a pair of slots in the wall of the guide tube. Subsequently, the flowline is hinged down to a horizontal position.

Please amend the fourth full paragraph on page 1, as shown below:

US ~~4,671,702~~ 4,671,702 (Langner) relates to a method and apparatus for connecting a flowline to a subsea structure. A riser and flowline connection tool are deployed downwardly to the subsea structure and a flowline terminal head, which is at the end of the flowline, is pulled to the flowline connection tool by means of a pullcable. Then the flowline terminal head is secured to the subsea structure and the flowline connection tool is recovered to the surface. the flowline terminal head consists of a connector hub with clamping surface to which the flowline is welded, and a flexible carrier pipe of interlocking metallic rings into which the end of the flowline is inserted. the carrier pipe limits the curvature of the flowline as the terminal head is bent into alignment with a flowline receptacle of the subsea structure. The flowline terminal head may include buoyant encircling rings which keep it free of difficult terrain in the vicinity of the subsea structure.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 2, as shown below:

US ~~4,277,202~~ 4,277,202 (Archambaud et al.) relates to a method and an apparatus for deploying and connecting an end of an underwater flowline to a connecting sleeve.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 2, as shown below:

US ~~4,877,356~~ 4,877,356 (Bontenbal) concerns a method and an apparatus for stabbing a flowline into a guide tube near the waterbottom and subsequently hinging over the flowline to a horizontal position. the connection operation is facilitated by a vertically oriented guide tube having along the inner wall thereof a pair of parallel slots which provide at the lower ends thereof pivot supports on which a pair of pivots which are mounted near the lower end of the flowline land during the stab in procedure. Deflectors are provided for deflecting a lower portion of the flowline while the pivots are lowered through the slots so as to induce the flowline to obtain a curved shape into a predetermined direction before the pivots land onto the pivot supports.

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 2, as shown below:

US ~~4,676,696~~ 4,676,696 and ~~4,717,287~~ 4,717,287 (Laursen) both relate to an apparatus for securing a flowline to a structure near the seabed ~~comprises~~ comprising a vertically oriented guide funnel placed atop a guide tube that is provided with a helical shoulder cooperating with an alignment key mounted on the flowline. During installation the flowline is tabbed into the guide funnel and guide tube thereby causing the alignment key to slide along the shoulder until a pair of hinge pins mounted on the flowline have entered into a pair of slots in the wall of the guide tube. Subsequently the flowline is hinged down to a horizontal position.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 12, as shown below:

A restraining device [[35]] (not shown) can be provided for maintaining a generally vertical position of said receptor device 1 during entry of said first process unit end 4a of said process unit 4. Said restraining device [[35]] may be releasable, and is arranged to be released prior to lowering said process unit onto said support arrangement 12a.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 16, as shown below:

A combined operation of vessel 24 and ROV will assist with aligning the mating pin 6 with the funnel 1a with subsequent lowering and entry into the funnel 1 within a 90 degrees sector of the latter, as shown in FIG. 2d. An alternative approach is to use two clump weights as proposed for the base frame 12,[[12a]] 13, 23.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 17, as shown below:

For retrieval of a lift installed separator from the sea onto the deck by crane, the operation as illustrated in FIGS. 3a-3c will be reverted. Prior to lift the separator 4 out of water the ROV will connect up two tugger lines [[30]] (not shown) to the separator to enable to control it over the deck 14 of the vessel 24 and during entry into the guide-funnel 1.

Please amend the (List of Reference Numerals) listed on pages 19 and 20, as shown below:

List of Reference Numerals

- 1 receptor device
- 1a receptor
- 2 receptor bearing, e.g., funnel bearing
- 3 receptor rotating pin, e.g., funnel rotating pin

- 4 elongate process unit
- 4a a first process unit end
- 4b a second process unit end
- 5 launch beam
- 6 process unit mating pin
- 7 dampening pad
- 8 dampening member
- 8a dampening member, compressed
- 8b dampening member, extended
- 9 receptor cylinder, e.g., funnel cylinder
- 10a rotational guide
- 10b guide formation on said process unit mating pin 6 corresponding to rotational guide 10a in said receptor cylinder 9
- 11 spring loaded lock pin ROV releasable
- 12 module foundation
- 13 transport frame
- 14 vessel deck
- 15 guide or cradle
- 16 process unit saddle
- 17 process unit locking pin/bucket
- 18 shackle for deployment wire
- 19 lowering wire
- 20 launch control-wire bridle
- 22 launch wire
- 23 process subsea skid
- 24 vessel (AHV)
- 25 snatch-block for launch-wire
- 26 ROV-adjustable wedge for process unit alignment
- 27 receptor bracket, e.g., funnel bracket
- 28 receptor bracket guide, e.g., funnel bracket guide

29 stern roller

30 ~~tugger line~~

31 vessel crane or vessel winch

32 process unit fastening pin, e.g., process unit locking pin

33 pad-eye

34 framework

35 ~~restraining device~~

36 vessel wire system

37 heave compensator